

United States. That would be a disaster for Idaho and American producers. The ambassador also assured us that this is in no way a precedent, and in fact is a unique and isolated event. However, if this sale is still allowed to go through, it could create a real concern that this deal will set a precedent.

Barley is very important to the economy of my home state. Idaho produces 60 million bushels of barley a year, worth \$155.3 million annually. We are the second largest barley producer in the U.S. and barley is the state's fifth largest crop.

Mr. Chairman, I call for termination of this sale of European Union barley and also for assurances from the European Union that U.S. grain markets will not be disrupted by unfair trade practices. That is why I am submitting a resolution calling on the European Union to halt this shipment and for the administration to investigate this unfair practice.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I join with my colleagues in submitting this resolution condemning the subsidized sale of European barley into the California barley market.

Today several of us met with the European Union Ambassador, Mr. Hugo Paemon, to express our extreme concern about this shipment and about the future it bodes for the trade relationship between the United States and the European Union. Quite frankly, Mr. President, I think that we were heard but I am not sure, in the American vernacular, that Mr. Paemon quite "gets it."

Mr. President, I want to suggest that whether this is just a skirmish, or whether it is the first battle in what many believe could become a rapidly escalating conflict over trade in agricultural goods, for barley producers in Oregon and across America, there has been no more serious matter in the past decade.

My language is strong, Mr. President, because it is very important that Senators understand that if this shipment proceeds it sets an extremely dangerous precedent for our agricultural trade practices.

There is a very real concern in Oregon that if we allow this shipment of grain, the shipment of which would simply not be possible without an extraordinary level of European Union subsidy, then we will have opened the door to further shipments that could have devastating effects on our domestic commodity prices.

For my colleagues who have not yet heard about this issue, a shipment of European Union barley, at a restitution subsidy rate of \$51 per metric ton, that was originally targeted into the Saudi Arabian market was not sold. In search of a buyer, this shipment was subsequently sold into the California feed barley market at a price well below the then-current market price.

Mr. President, the United States is the world's largest producer of feed grains and the world's largest exporter

of feed grains. Were this European barley not subsidized at half of its value, we would not be having this discussion because there is no way it could have been priced competitively with domestic feed barley.

I met this weekend with barley producers in Klamath Falls, Oregon. These folks are already seeing very tough barley prices this season, down about \$5 a metric ton from what they have normally received over the decade. They are taking some hits as a consequence of our national policy through the Farm bill of phasing out income maintenance programs. And now the European Union is sending us a heavily subsidized shipment that is causing collapse of the market. Enough is enough.

This European Union shipment, because it has the capacity to flood the California market for the next 9 months, has caused prices to drop \$10 per ton in one week. One individual who operates a grain elevator in the Klamath described telling a local producer that he had lost some \$20,000 in 48 hours as a result of this dumping of this subsidized barley into California.

These farmers ask, correctly, that if ever there was a time for the federal government to come to the defense of American agriculture, now is that time. We face collapse of our American barley market because of this relatively unique occurrence; now is the time to go to the mat in defense of our producers against wholly subsidized foreign dumping.

Mr. President, we should also recognize, and thank, the larger wholesalers of barley in California who passed up this sale, which to them represented I'm sure a very lucrative marketing opportunity. These companies understood the damage that the sale would do to their customers and most reliable suppliers, the U.S. barley producers. But surely if this sale is allowed to go forward, and other fire sales are allowed to follow, those firms will no longer be able to afford that posture.

Mr. President, as a supporter of free trade, and of providing fast track authority, if we are to retain our credibility with American farmers then we must show the ability to act forcefully when faced with these sorts of irritants to free trade. There is no precedent for this sale, and if we allow it to go forward then those of us who believe in the promise of freer trade will have some difficulty explaining to our farmers that greater trade freedom is in their best interest.

Mr. President, it is very important to all Oregon producers that the U.S. Senate act quickly to respond to this unprecedented attack on one segment of our agriculture industry. I urge the swift adoption of this resolution.

SENATE RESOLUTION 221—DESIGNATING APRIL 30, 1998, AS "NATIONAL ERASE THE HATE AND ELIMINATE RACISM DAY"

Mr. BURNS (for himself, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. CAMPBELL, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. ENZI, Mr. GORTON, Mr. GRAMM, Mr. GRAMS, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. HATCH, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. KEMPTHORNE, Mr. MACK, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. THURMOND, Mr. WARNER, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. DODD, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. GLENN, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KERRY, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN, Mr. MOYNIHAN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. REID, Mr. ROBB, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. TORRICELLI, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. INOUE, Mr. KERREY, Mr. KOHL, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. AKAKA, Mrs. BOXER, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 221

Whereas the term 'hate crime' means an offense in which one or more individuals, commits an offense (such as an assault or battery (simple or aggravated), theft, criminal trespass, damage to property, mob action, disorderly conduct, or telephone harassment) by reason of the race, color, creed, religion, ancestry, gender, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, or national origin of another individual or group of individuals;

Whereas there are almost 8,000 hate crimes reported to the Department of Justice each year, and the number of hate crimes reported increases each year;

Whereas hate crimes have no place in a civilized society that is dedicated to freedom and independence, as is the United States;

Whereas the people of the United States must lead and set the example for the world in protecting the rights of all people;

Whereas the people of the United States should take personal responsibility for and action against hatred and hate crimes;

Whereas the Members of Congress, as representatives of the people of the United States, must take personal responsibility for and action against hatred and hate crimes;

Whereas the laws against hate crimes, which have been passed by Congress and signed by the President, must be supported and implemented by the people of the United States and by Federal, State, and local law enforcement officials and other public servants: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates April 30, 1998, as 'National Erase the Hate and Eliminate Racism Day'; and

(2) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States and throughout the world to recognize the importance of using each day as an opportunity to take a stand against hate crimes and violence in their nations, states, neighborhoods and communities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 222—COMMEMORATING STUART FRANKLIN BALDERSON

Mr. LOTT (for himself, Mr. THURMOND, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. BYRD, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. FORD) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to: